## **ABSTRACT**

The invention relates to a method for recognizing identification media in the communication area of a write/read device functioning according to the principle of inductive coupling in the MHz range, wherein an antenna is used for transmitting and receiving HF signals, in addition to a circuit for transmitting HF signals with a standard transmitter power output and a logic circuit for evaluating communication between a write/read device and an identification medium. A short inquiry signal consisting of several fundamental components of the HF field and having a standard transmission power output is periodically transmitted via a transmission path and the antenna and a response signal is detected on the antenna. The response signal is compared to a reference signal and a communication signal is transmitted in order to recognize an identification medium in the event that the response signal is different from the reference signal. This enables energy-saving, reliable recognition of identification media occurring in the field of communications for subsequent communication with the write/read device, particularly with respect to battery-operated write/read devices.